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New and little known species of *Cerceris* Latreille, 1802 from central and southern Africa (Hymenoptera: Sphecidae)

by

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A new species, *Cerceris bambesae*, is described from the Congo, and a new subspecies of *C. kalaharica* Bischoff, namely, *ovambo*, from South West Africa. Redescriptions and figures are given of eight known species including four in which the male sex was hitherto undescribed. Two homonyms, *C. turneri* Arnold and *C. ponderosa* Arnold, are recorded, the former renamed *ventripilosa*, the latter placed in synonymy with *C. flavofemorata* Arnold. The types of five known north African Palaearctic *Cerceris* species are briefly dealt with, of which *C. schmiedeknechti* Kohl is placed in synonymy with *C. specularis* Costa.

Cerceris discrepans discrepans Brauns, 1926 **stat. nov.** figs 1–6, 46

Cerceris discrepans Brauns, 1926: 314 (♀); Arnold, 1931: 143, 144, 151 (♀, ♂); Empey, 1969: 300 (misidentification). ♀-holotype, ♂-metallotype (Transvaal Museum). Type locality:—SOUTH AFRICA, Cape Province: Willowmore.

C. discrepans Brauns appears by misidentification in my checklist (Empey, 1969: 300) as a junior synonym of *C. albigena* Cameron, 1905; the two species, though distantly related, should be considered valid species.

FEMALE. 7 mm long. Black, the following parts creamy-yellow: clypeus; frons, to a little beyond antennal insertion; interantennal carina; scapes; basal two-thirds of mandibles; pronotal scapulae, boldly; tegulae; metanotum; a transverse mediobasal macula on second tergite; very small maculae, one a side, on extreme lateral areas of second tergite; an apical band, very thin in middle and very strongly dilated laterally, on third tergite; traces of apical bands on fourth and fifth tergites; distal halves of anterior and middle femora; anterior and middle tibiae; tarsi, in greater part; posterior tibiae, except blackish streaks on distal halves; third sternite, and traces on lateral areas of other sternites. The following parts ferruginous: flagella, except slightly infuscated upper surfaces; petiole; basilateral areas of second tergite; basal half and extreme apical margin of second sternite; anterior area bordering apical margin of medioclypeus. Extreme apical margin of medioclypeus pale brown. There appears to be colour variation in this species, for some specimens have traces of yellow on the lateral areas of the scutellum, while others possess black petioles and thinner tergital bands, these bands being slightly dilated laterally. Wings subhyaline, tinged with pale brown, fore wings very slightly darker distally; pterostigmae brown, veins dark brown. Pilosity silvery, short and sparse.

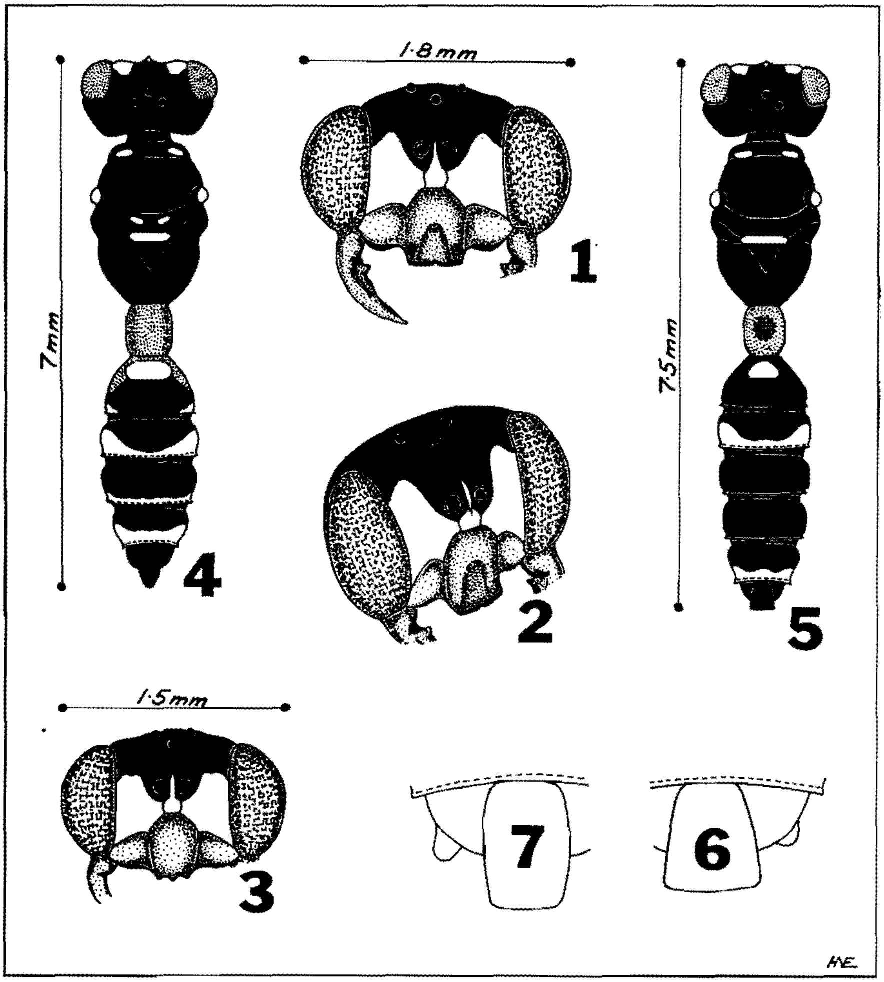
Frons and clypeus very shallowly finely and sparsely punctured; balance of head finely deeply reticulate-punctate. Pronotal dorsum finely reticulate-punctate medially; scapulae punctulate. Scutum shining, moderately but not closely punctured, punctures subcontiguous. Scutellum shining, sparsely punctured, puncturation smaller than that of scutum. Metanotum nitidulous, impunctate; saeptum similar, boldly convex, finely mediolongitudinally grooved. Propodeum and mesopleuron reticulate-punctate as occiput. Superior metapleural areas coarsely striate. Tergites punctured as propodeum, but puncturation slightly larger, not as close, subcontiguous. Pygidium dull, very finely coriaceous, with a few small basal punctures. Second sternite sparsely punctured, punctures the size of those on propodeum; rest of sternites with much finer and sparser puncturation, puncturation denser laterad.

Medioclypeus one-fourth longer again than wide, moderately convex in basal one-third, distinctly concave in distal two-thirds, the concavity extending to a somewhat turned-up and transversely subtruncated apex, the margin of which being weakly convex with a small shallow median incision, laterally subrectangular and protruding noticeably beyond the anterior margins of lateroclypeal areas. Mandibles with a large subtriangular tooth in basal halves of their inner margins. Scutum antero-medially depressed; pronotum dorsum similarly depressed. Mesopleuron unarmed. Saeptal apex distinctly foveate. Petiole subrectangular, one-fifth longer again than wide, sides subparallel. Hypo-epimeral areas of mesopleuron slightly produced into dorsally sloping, subtriangular and obtusely pointed processes. Second tergite about twice as wide as, and a little longer than petiole. Pygidium ovate, two-thirds longer again than wide, sides narrowing to a much smaller and rounded apex. Second sternite with feeble mediobasal platform (contrary to Brauns' holotype description). Inner orbits slightly divergent towards mandibular base. Interocular distance on vertex nearly equal to combined length of first seven segments of flagellum. Posterior tibiae with six feeble serrations along each outer edge.

MALE. 7,5 mm long. Colour similar to female, except that there is a blackish infuscation in the middle of the ferruginous petiole, that the ferruginous colour of the second tergite is limited to the extreme basal areas, that the apical band on the sixth tergite is dirty yellow (possibly discoloration) and that the sternites are black, except the third, which has yellow lateral maculae, one a side. Metanotum pale yellow; legs with a darker shade of yellow.

Medioclypeus moderately convex, oval, one-fifth longer again than wide, distinctly tridentate apically. Inner orbits subparallel. Puncturation, especially that of head and thorax, closer and much stronger than that of female. Petiole subrectangular, one-third longer again than wide, subparallel-sided. Saeptum slightly shining, finely sparsely punctured. Pygidium distinctly widens distally to a truncated apex; pygidial surface finely closely punctured. Interocular distance on vertex equal to a little more than combined length of first six segments of flagellum. Second sternite with low mediobasal platform. Posterior tibiae with five feeble serrations along each outer edge. Hypo-epimeral areas as female.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. SOUTH AFRICA, Cape Province: ♀-holotype and ♂-metallotype, numbered 254 and 255 respectively (Dr. H. Brauns) (Transvaal Museum); 2 ♀, Oudtshoorn, Willowmore (Dr. H. Brauns) (Transvaal Museum); 1 ♀, Merweville (South African Museum); 3 ♀, Reitbron, Beaufort West, January 1965 (H. N. Empey) (Empey Collection).



Figs. 1–6. *Cerceris discrepans discrepans* Brauns. 1, 2 — ♀ head; 3 — ♂ head; 4 — ♀ body; 5 — ♂ body; 6 — ♂ pygidium.
Fig. 7. *Cerceris discrepans perplexa* Arnold, ♂ pygidium.

Cerceris discrepans perplexa Arnold, 1931, figs 7, 46

Cerceris discrepans perplexa Arnold, 1931: 153 (♂); Empey, 1969: 300 (misidentification). ♂-holotype (British Museum); ♀ unknown.

C. discrepans perplexa Arnold appears by misidentification in my checklist (Empey, 1969: 300) as a subspecies of *C. albigena* Cameron, 1905, resulting from placing *C. discrepans discrepans* Brauns and *C. albigena* Cameron incorrectly in synonymy.

MALE. 6,5–7,5 mm long (holotype 7,5 mm). This redescription is based on the examination of the holotype and two other males. The holotype has no mediobasal macula on the second tergite, but the other males examined have, in varying degrees, a triangular mediobasal cream-coloured macula on their second tergites. Femora, in greater part, blackish—brownish-yellow in nominal subspecific male; petiole as nominal subspecific male, and similarly coloured with the same medial infuscation. Tergital bands yellow.

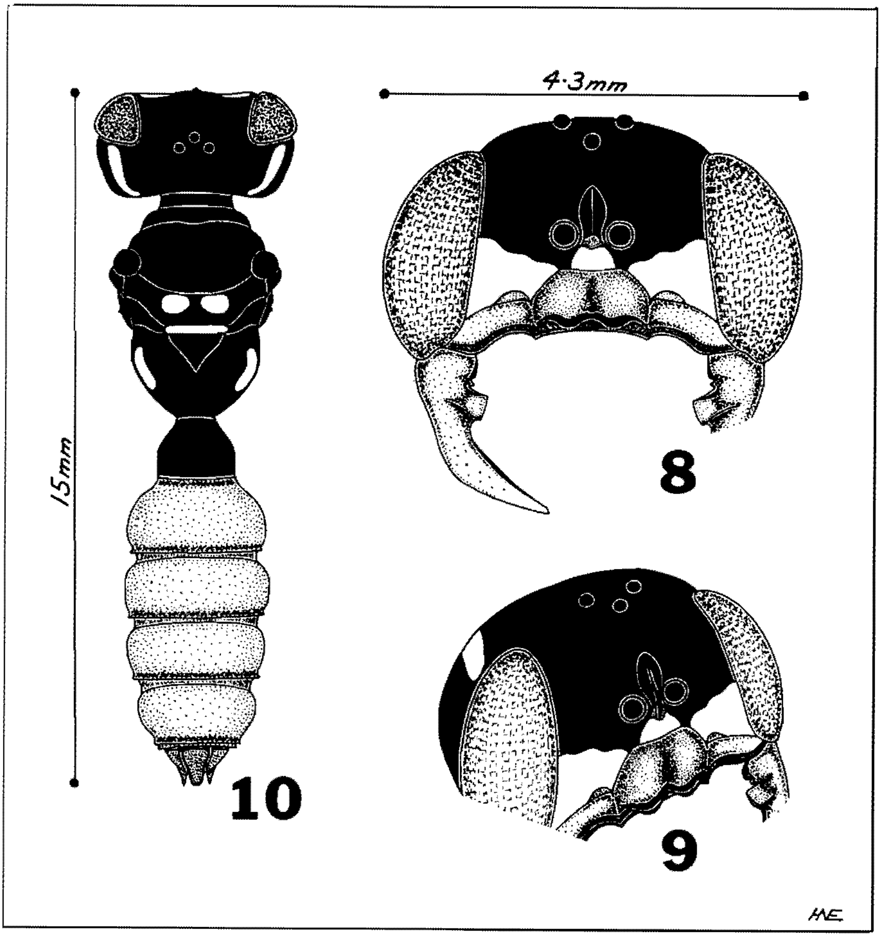
The convexity of the medioclypeus is greater in this subspecies, and the saeptum, instead of having its surface punctured (as is the case of the nominal subspecific male metallotype), it is smooth, except for some fine oblique striation in the basal corners and lateral margins; furthermore, the mediolongitudinal groove is distinctly crenulate. The pygidium differs: in the nominal subspecific male the pygidium is a little longer again than wide, widening distally; but in *perplexa* (fig. 7) the pygidium is much longer than wide, the sides slightly convex, somewhat barrel-shaped, apex and base of equal width. The number of tibial serrations, the petiole proportions and the comparative flagellar length to the interocular distance on the vertex are as the nominal subspecific male.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. SOUTH WEST AFRICA: Okahandja, 10–23.ii.1928 (R. E. Turner). ♂-holotype, 2 ♂ (British and Rhodesia Museums).

Cerceris bambesae spec. nov., figs 8–10, 46

FEMALE. 15 mm long. Robust. Head and thorax black, the following parts pale yellow: basal one-third of mandibles, balance black; clypeus; frons, to antennal insertion level; frontal disc; broad oblique lines, converging caudad, one on each upper gena; two large, transversely placed, subovoid maculae on scutellum; metanotum in greater part; vertically elongated maculae, one a side, on anterior halves of hypo-epimeral areas; large ovoid maculae, one a side, on sides of propodeum. Abdominal complex pale ferruginous, except petiole, which is blackish in greater part, the apical margin of which being pale ferruginous. Pygidium dark ferruginous, blackish distally and basally. Legs, in greater part, dark ferruginous; blackish on coxae, trochanters and femora, except outer distal halves of anterior and middle femora, which are pale yellow. Wings fuscous; pterostigmae and veins brown, costae dark brown. Pilosity of head and thorax silvery, short and sparse; that of abdominal complex pale ferruginous, very short and sparse dorsally, denser and longer below.

Medioclypeus broadly convex, nearly twice as wide as long, and distinctly mediolongitudinally impressed throughout its length, somewhat subdividing the area into two independently convexed halves, with apical margin shallowly concave. Situated immediately above the medioclypeal apex, there are two transversely adjacent subporrect lobate clypeal processes, the free edge of which is deeply incised medially and is about as wide as the medioclypeus across the tentorial pits. The medioclypeal apex has acutely subrectangular and denticulate lateral corners, and is about one-third of the width between the inner mandibular bases. Mandibles with a large obtuse subrectangular tooth in middle of basal halves of their inner margins; outer margins angular. Inner orbits strongly divergent towards mandibular base. Head large, slightly wider than thorax. Pronotal collar gibbose, medially depressed; scapulae rounded. Interantennal carina broad, flat on top, with a thin low mediolongitudinal carina protruding above the flat basal platform. Hypo-epimeral areas very swollen; meso-



Figs. 8–10. *Cerceris bambesae* spec. nov., ♀. 8, 9 — head; 10 — body.

pleuron swollen, with lateral mammiform tubercles, one a side. Saeptum subequilaterally triangular, large. Petiole broad, one-third wider again than long, sides subparallel for about one-fourth of its distal length, then tapering convexly to a much narrower base; medio–apex subfoveately impressed. Second tergite about two-thirds wider again, and slightly longer than petiole. Pygidium twice as long as its basal width, sides very slightly convex, tapering strongly towards a rounded apex, the width here being about one-half of that at the base. Hypopygium acutely bispinose, lateral spines projecting well beyond pygidial apex. Second sternite without mediobasal platform. Posterior tibiae with seven coarse shallow spiniferous serrations along each outer edge. Interocular distance on vertex about equal to combined length of first seven, plus one-half of the eighth segments of flagellum. Second flagellar segment about one-half longer again than third segment; ultimate segment is as long as third segment, is slightly curved and apically subtruncate.

The yellow laterofrontal areas and projecting lobate clypeal processes finely shallowly punctured; rest of clypeus finely coriaceous. Black frontal areas, extending from antennal level to anterior ocellar levels, moderately striato-punctate, blending into reticulate puncturation on upper genae. Flat plateau of interantennal carina laterally punctured; frontal disc finely coriaceous. The whole head surface appears to have a fine fundamental coriaceous pattern; this is distinctly evident in the area immediately behind the posterior ocellus, where the superimposed puncturation is finer and much shallower than that on the genae, these punctures becoming sparser and shallower towards the occiput, which is completely devoid of superimposed puncturation, thus exposing the fundamental sculpture. Pronotal collar somewhat transversely rugoso-punctate laterally. Scutum coarsely striato-rugose. Yellow area of scutellum striato-rugose, similar to that of scutum, but finer, shallower; balance of this sclerite finely coriaceous, apparently an extension of fundamental surface on to the thorax. Metanotum impunctate. Saeptum finely obliquely striate. Propodeum obliquely striato-rugose. Hypo-epimeral areas coarsely rugoso-punctate; mesopleuron coarsely striato-rugose. Superior metapleural areas finely subobliquely striate. Head and thorax slightly shining; abdominal complex shining, with fine shallow and sparse puncturation all over, except the mediodorsal surface of petiole and median areas of sternites, these finely coriaceous. Pygidium finely rugose.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. CONGO: ♀-holotype, No. 24/1, Bambesa, 1.x.1938 (J. Vrydagh); 1 ♀-paratype, No. 24/2, Yangambi, 1940 (I.N.E.A.C.). Holotype deposited in Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren, Belgium; paratype in my collection. Male unknown.

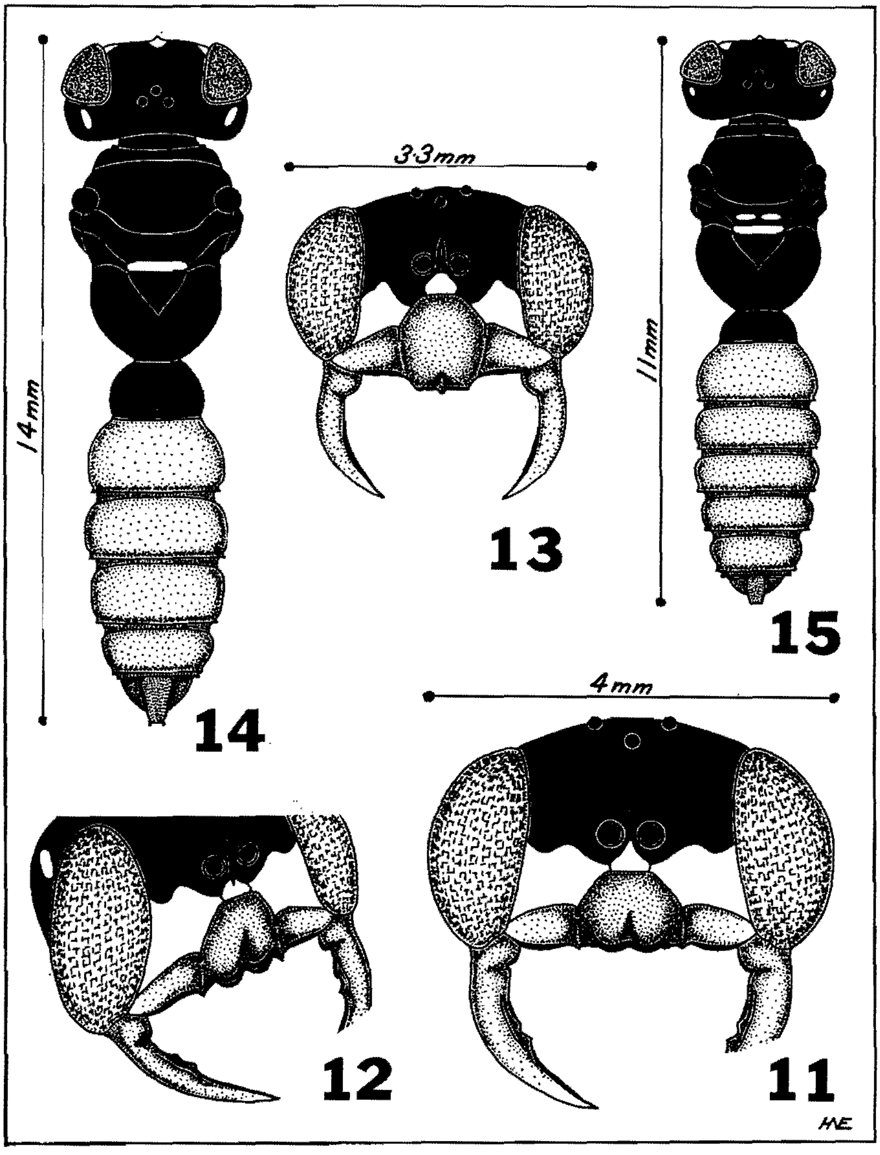
NOTES. *C. bambesae* closely resembles *C. yalensis* Turner, 1913 in colour and in characters of the clypeal apex. The two species may be distinguished by the shape of the pygidium and of the medioclypeus.

Cerceris yalensis Turner, 1913, figs 11–15, 46

Cerceris yalensis Turner, 1913: 744 (♀, ♂); 1918: 91 (♀, not ♂); Arnold, 1931: 189 (♀, not ♂); Empey, 1969: 325 (♀).
Cerceris uxor Leclercq, 1955: 417 (♀); Empey, 1969: 325.

The date of publication of Turner's description of both this species and *C. vigilans pervigilans* Turner is February 1913, and not 1912 (cf. Empey, 1969).

FEMALE. 14 mm long. Black, the following parts pale yellow: clypeus, except extreme apical margin of medioclypeus and free edge of clypeal process, especially the lobes, these exceptions black; frons, below antennal insertion level; small roundish maculae, one a side, on upper genae; traces on metanotum; frontal disc; streaks on ventral edges of anterior femora; faint streaks on outer edges of anterior tibiae. Abdominal complex pale ferruginous, except petiole, which is black. Tarsi, in greater part, pale ferruginous; rest of legs very dark ferruginous to blackish-ferruginous. Mandibular bases and tips of ultimate flagellar segments ferruginous. Wings fuscous, veins and pterostigmae dark brown. Pilosity silvery on head and thorax, pale ferruginous on abdominal complex; very short on head and thorax, much longer on fifth tergite and sternites.

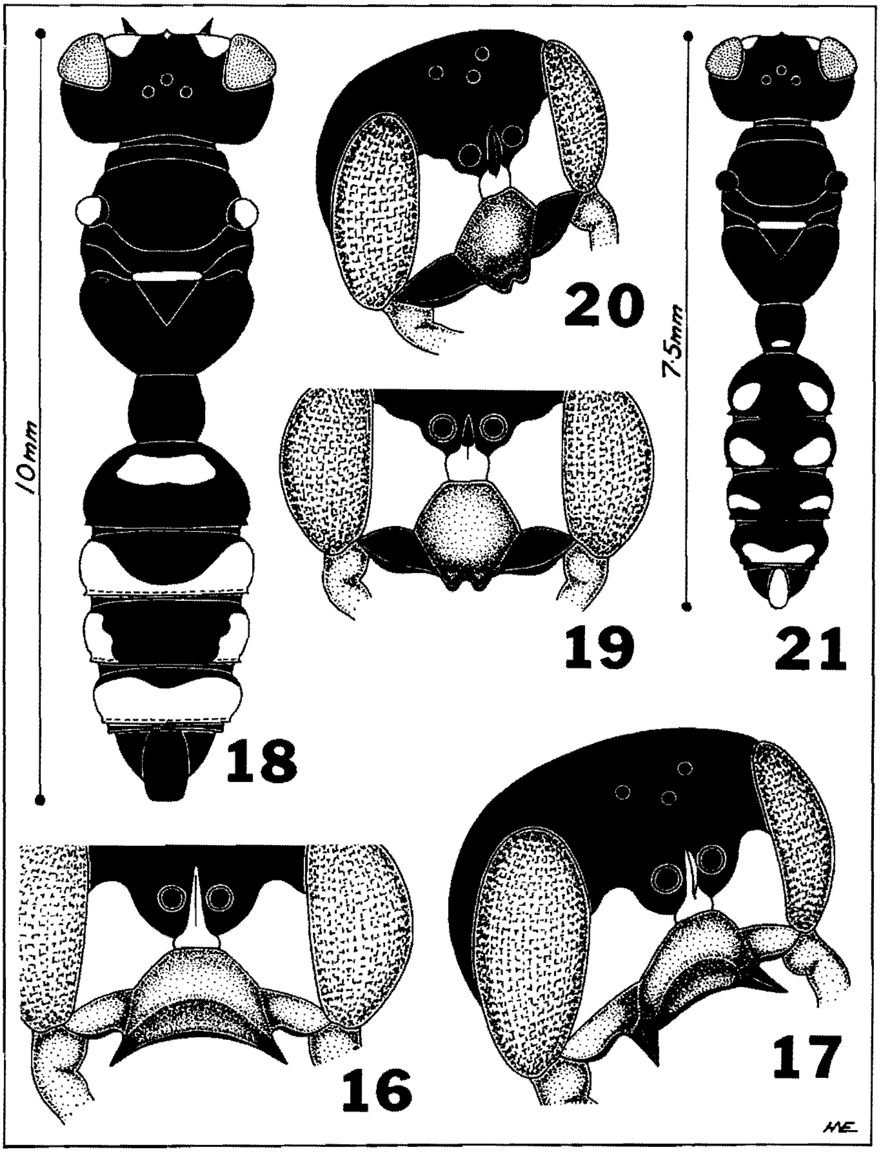


Figs. 11–15. *Cerceris yalensis* Turner. 11, 12 — ♀ head; 13 — ♂ head; 14 — ♀ body; 15 — ♂ body.

Medioclypeus flatly convex, one-half wider again than long; apical margin transverse, nearly straight, with lateral denticles, one a side, spaced at a distance apart equalling width across tentorial pits. Medioclypeus has two swollen and transversely adjacent lobate processes, situated immediately above apex; the free edge of these subdentate clypeal processes is slightly raised, sinuate and excised between the lobes. Mandibles subfalcate, feebly unidentate on their inner margins. Interantennal carina high, very acute; frontal disc bold and flat. Head as wide as swollen thorax. Pronotal collar short, roundly convex; scapulae rounded, laterally carinated. Hypo-epimeral areas very swollen; mesopleuron likewise swollen, with very obtuse, hardly perceivable tubercles, one a side. Petiole about twice as wide as long, subhemispherical and sharply medio-apically impressed. Second tergite one-half wider again, and one-half longer again than petiole. Pygidium two-thirds longer again than its basal width, sides slightly sinuate, tapering gradually to a subtruncate apex, the corners of which are slightly rounded; apical width slightly less than one-half of that at the base. Hypopygium deeply excised medio-apically, thus laterally acutely bispinose, spines just protruding beyond pygidial apex. Second sternite without mediobasal platform. Posterior tibiae with four very coarse spiniferous serrations along each outer edge. Interocular distance on vertex about equal to combined length of first six, plus one-half of seventh segments of flagellum. Second flagellar segment about one-half longer again than third segment; ultimate segment is slightly longer than third segment, is slightly curved and obliquely subtruncate apically. Inner orbits very strongly divergent towards mandibular base.

Frons and clypeus fundamentally finely coriaceous, with very small shallow sparse superimposed punctulation on medioclypeal area, clypeal process, frontal disc and yellow laterofrontal areas. The black frontal areas from antennal insertion to vertex are coarsely longitudinally striato-rugose. Laterovertex to genae transversely rugoso-punctate; mediovertex finely coriaceous fundamentally, with some interspersed fine, transversely elongated superimposed punctures. Occiput with fundamental coriaceousness. Pronotal dorsum very finely and transversely striato-rugose. Lateroscutum moderately and longitudinally rugoso-punctate; medioscutum fundamentally coriaceous, with a few small interspersed superimposed punctures. Anteriorly, situated mediolongitudinally on the scutum, there is a shallow flat-bottomed laterally carinated groove, which extends posteriorly from the anterior margin to about one-fourth the scutal length. The fine fundamental coriaceousness apparently exists on the head and thorax. Scutellum with a few fine interspersed punctures; metanotum practically impunctate. Saeptum coarsely sublongitudinally striated. Propodeum mediodorsally impunctate, dull; sparsely punctate laterally, puncturation becoming deeper and closer towards inferior metapleural areas. Hypo-epimeral and mesopleural areas coarsely striato-rugose; in contrast, superior metapleural areas finely striate. Petiole, second and third tergites impunctate; fourth tergite with very fine and very sparse puncturation, while the fifth tergite has slightly larger, deeper and closer puncturation. Pygidium moderately rugose. Lateral tumid areas of sternites punctured as fifth tergite. Lateropygidial margins fimbriate; hypopygium with lateral pencils of longish setae, one pencil on each side, directed posteriorly.

MALE (hitherto undescribed). 12 mm long. Coloured as female, except that the metanotal bar is completely pale yellow, and there are traces of this colour on the scutellum; the maculae on the genae are much smaller. In some other females examined, there appears to be some variation in the pale yellow markings on the metanotum and scutellum, and some specimens, including the female holotype, are almost devoid of yellow colour on these parts, while others have this colour boldly displayed on either sclerite or on both; this colour variation applies to the males as well.



Figs. 16–18. *Cerceris saegeri* Empey, ♀. 16, 17 — head; 18 — body.
Figs. 19–21. *Cerceris bifurcata* Empey, ♀. 19, 20 — head; 21 — body.

Medioclypeus pale yellow, moderately convex, apex slightly convex, black and medially subdenticular; anteriorly, just before the apex and situated medially, there is a small acute subconical tubercle—an unusual characteristic among males of this genus. Mandibles edentate, subfalcate. Inner orbits moderately divergent towards mandibular base. Interocular distance on vertex almost equal to combined length of first six segments of flagellum. Second flagellar segment one-fourth longer again than third segment; ultimate segment is curved and apically subobliquely truncate, similar to that of female. Petiole very broad, three times wider than long, subhemispherical and acutely medio-apically foveate as female. Second tergite two and one-third times wider than long, and one-half wider again than petiole at its greatest width. Pygidium subrectangular, sides weakly convex, apex truncate and twice as long as wide. Second sternite without mediobasal platform. Posterior tibiae with five coarse obtuse serrations along each outer edge.

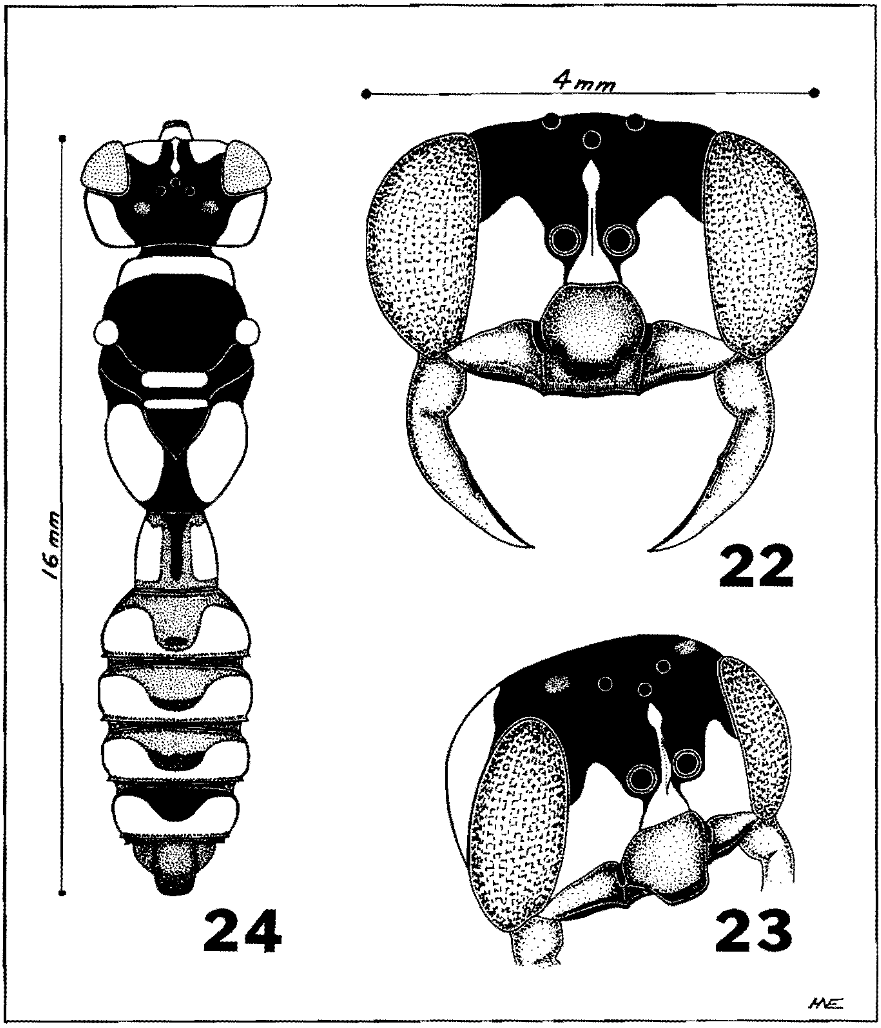
Yellow areas of frons and clypeus very finely coriaceous as female; black frontal areas striato-punctate. Scutum with anteromedian groove, similar to female; puncturation on this sclerite also similar. Propodeum coarsely reticulate-punctate, except lateral areas beneath propodeal spiracles, which are somewhat longitudinally striate. Hypo-epimeral and mesopleural areas coarsely reticulate-punctate. Petiole with very fine and interspersed punctulation. Tergites practically impunctate, except for a few small lateral punctures. Pygidium shallowly rugose. Body surface slightly shining as female.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. KENYA: ♀-holotype, Yala River (British Museum). RUANDA: ♀-holotype, 1 ♀-paratype of *C. uxor* Leclercq, Dendezi (Musée R. de l'Afrique Centrale); 2 ♀, Shangugu (Musée R. de l'Afrique Centrale). CONGO: ♂-metallotype, No. 27/1, Eala, September 1935 (J. Ghesquière); 1 ♂-metaparatype, No. 27/2, Eala, May 1935 (J. Ghesquière); 3 ♀, Eala, Sept.–Nov. 1935 (J. Ghesquière). ♂-metallotype deposited in Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren, Belgium; ♂-metaparatype in my collection.

Cerceris kalaharica kalaharica Bischoff, 1913 stat. nov., figs 22–28, 46

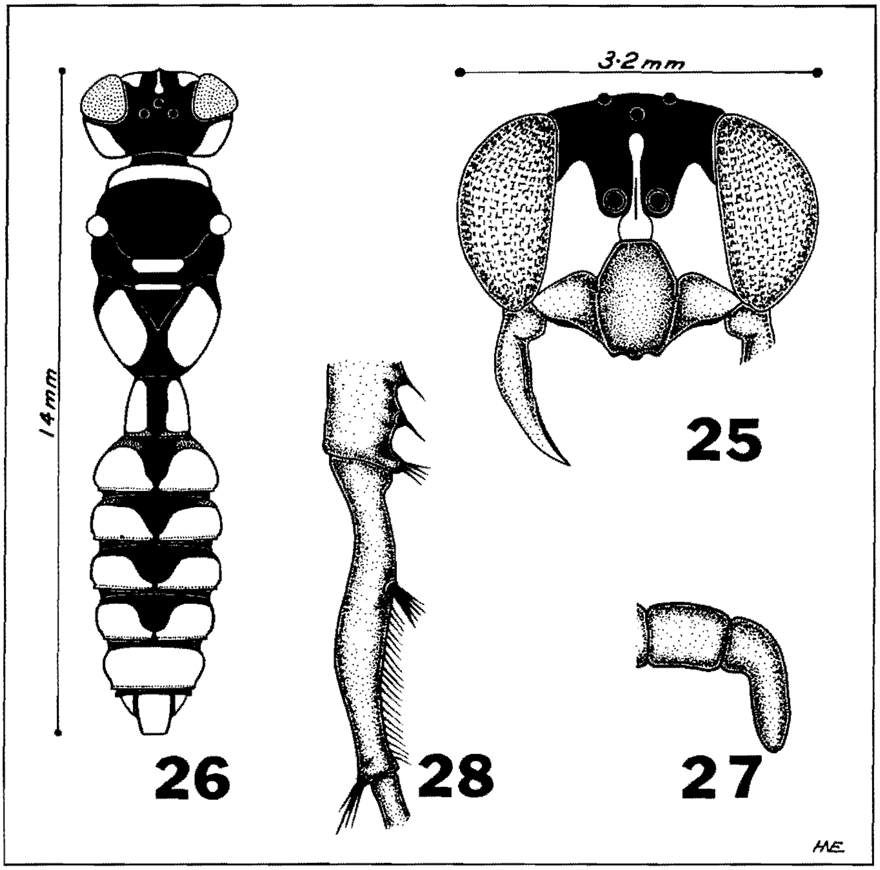
Cerceris kalaharica Bischoff, 1913 (♀); Arnold, 1931: 149; Empey, 1969: 311 (♀).
Cerceris africana kalaharica Bischoff, 1913; Arnold, 1931: 138, 145, 149 (♀, not ♂) (misidentification); Empey, 1969: 311.

FEMALE. 14–16 mm long. Head and thorax black, the following parts yellow: basal two-thirds of mandibles, distal balance blending from ferruginous into black; clypeus, except anterior margins of latero- and medioclypeal areas and apex to nasiform clypeal process, these being ferruginous; frons, to well above antennal insertion level; frontal disc; interantennal carina, continuing diamond-shaped as a macula as far as anterior ocellus; entire genae; entire pronotal dorsum; tegulae; a bold transverse bar on anteroscutellum; metanotum; propodeum laterally, in greater part, except propodeal declivity; posterior halves of hypo-epimeral areas. There are two ferruginous maculae, one a side, on occiput, situated behind posterior ocelli and about midway in line between one posterior ocellus and inner orbital margin. Wing bases, extreme lateral propodeal areas, including inferior metapleural areas and propodeal spiracles, ferruginous. Abdominal complex ferruginous, the following exceptions yellow: large lateral maculae, one a side and about one-third of segmental width, on petiole; apical bands, thin in middle and strongly dilated laterally, on all tergites, the fifth with apical band thicker in middle; large lateral maculae on all sternites and posterior faces of hypopygium. There is usually a mediolongitudinal blackish streak on the petiole, and



Figs. 22–24. *Cerceris kalaharica kalaharica* Bischoff, ♀. 22, 23 — head; 24 — body.

blackish medio-apical maculae, in varying degrees, situated in front of the thin yellow apical bands on all the tergites; sternites often have traces of black along their apical margins. Pygidium ferruginous, distal one-third blackish, with traces of black on lateral margins. Scapes, pedicels and flagellar segments ferruginous; upper surfaces of flagella, except ultimate segment, fusco-ferruginous. Legs pale ferruginous, except anterior tibiae, undersides of fore and middle femora, middle tibiae in greater part, and outer spiniferous areas of posterior tibiae, these exceptions yellow. Wings subhyaline, tinged



Figs. 25–28. *Cerceris kalaharica kalaharica* Bischoff, ♂. 25 — head; 26 — body; 27 — apex to flagellum; 28 — right posterior basitarsus.

with pale ferruginous, fore wings darkening distally; pterostigmae and basal halves of veins pale ferruginous, balance of veins brown, costae dark brown. Pilosity sericeous, golden on fimbriated apical margin of fifth tergite; generally short and sparse dorsally, frons and clypeus subglabrous.

Clypeus and frons very finely, very shallowly and not closely punctured; rest of head finely strongly reticulate-punctate, except upper genae, which are somewhat finely shallowly rugoso-punctate. Scutum punctured as occiput; pronotum dorsum likewise, punctures much shallower; scutellum and metanotum punctured as pronotal dorsum, but not so close, the latter with sparser and shallower puncturation. Propodeum punctured as pronotal dorsum. Saeptum very finely and deeply reticulate-punctate over entire surface, devoid of median groove. Puncturation of mesopleuron as that of scutum; hypo-epimeral areas with similar, but finer puncturation. Tergites coriaceous, finer on fourth, and still finer on fifth tergite. Petiole punctured as occiput, but not so close. Pygidium finely coriaceous, somewhat coarsely rugose progressively over basal two-thirds. Sternites with fine shallow interspersed puncturation, punctures larger laterally.

Medioclypeus subhexagonal, strongly convex and slightly longer than wide; the basal half rises convexly and subsemi-conically into a nasiform clypeal process, which projects for a distance of about two-thirds of the medioclypeal width; the free edge of the process tapers to a transversely acute and subtruncated apex. Beneath the projecting nasiform clypeal process the surface is deeply concave, and this concavity extends distally to a coarsely crenulate and arcuating medioclypeal apex, the margin of which ending laterally in small obtusely angled denticles; extreme apical surface of the medioclypeus appears somewhat corrugated. Mesopleural areas swollen, armed with small acute lateral tubercles, one a side. Propodeal declivity sharply impressed mediolongitudinally. Petiole as long as wide, sides slightly convex, tapering to a much narrower base, which is about three-fifths of the apical width. Second tergite about two-thirds wider again, and slightly shorter than petiole. Pygidium broadly linguiform, two-thirds longer again than wide, sides feebly convex, apex subtruncate with corners rounded. Apices of sternites shallowly concave, medio-apically sharply excised. Hypopygial apex emarginate, deeply and roundly excised medially, and distinctly subcarinate along lateral margins of the excision. Second sternite without mediobasal platform. Posterior tibiae with seven coarse spiniferous serrations along each outer edge. Mandibles subdentate mediobasally on inner margins, distally subfalcate. Interocular distance on vertex a little longer than combined length of first six segments of flagellum. Second flagellar segment is one-half longer again than third segment and tapers cephalad; ultimate segment tapers slightly distally, is moderately curved and apically pointed. Interantennal carina very acute. Petiole slightly depressed mediolongitudinally distally. Inner orbits moderately divergent towards mandibular base. Sternital apices shallowly concave.

MALE (hitherto undescribed). 14–17 mm long. Coloured as female, except that the ferruginous colour on the abdominal complex is much reduced, more often absent, or only present on the petiole and second tergite. The ventral thoracic complex has yellow maculae on most of the segments, including the neck, and boldly on propleuron ventrum. Puncturation very much the same as female, but the pygidial surface condition differs: in the males the surface is evenly coriaceous, with small and widely interspersed puncturation throughout.

Medioclypeus broadly subelliptical, moderately convex, except for the slight mediolongitudinal concavity in anterior half, and is one-half longer again than wide, apex feebly but broadly tridentate, apical margin transverse and laterally obtusely angular. Mandibles subfalcate, edentate, thin and acute. Inner orbits moderately divergent towards mandibular base. Mesopleural areas swollen as female; petiole similar and proportionately the same as female. The excised and concave condition of sternital apices as female; the mediolongitudinal impression of petiole is similar, but slightly wider and deeper than female. Second sternite without mediobasal platform. Interocular distance on vertex equals combined length of first five segments of flagellum. Second flagellar segment shaped as female, and is one-half longer again than third segment; ultimate segment is as long as second segment, is thinner over the distal two thirds, sharply curved and apically pointed (fig. 27). Posterior tibiae with six shallow serrations along each outer edge. Posterior basitarsi slightly sinuate (fig. 28).

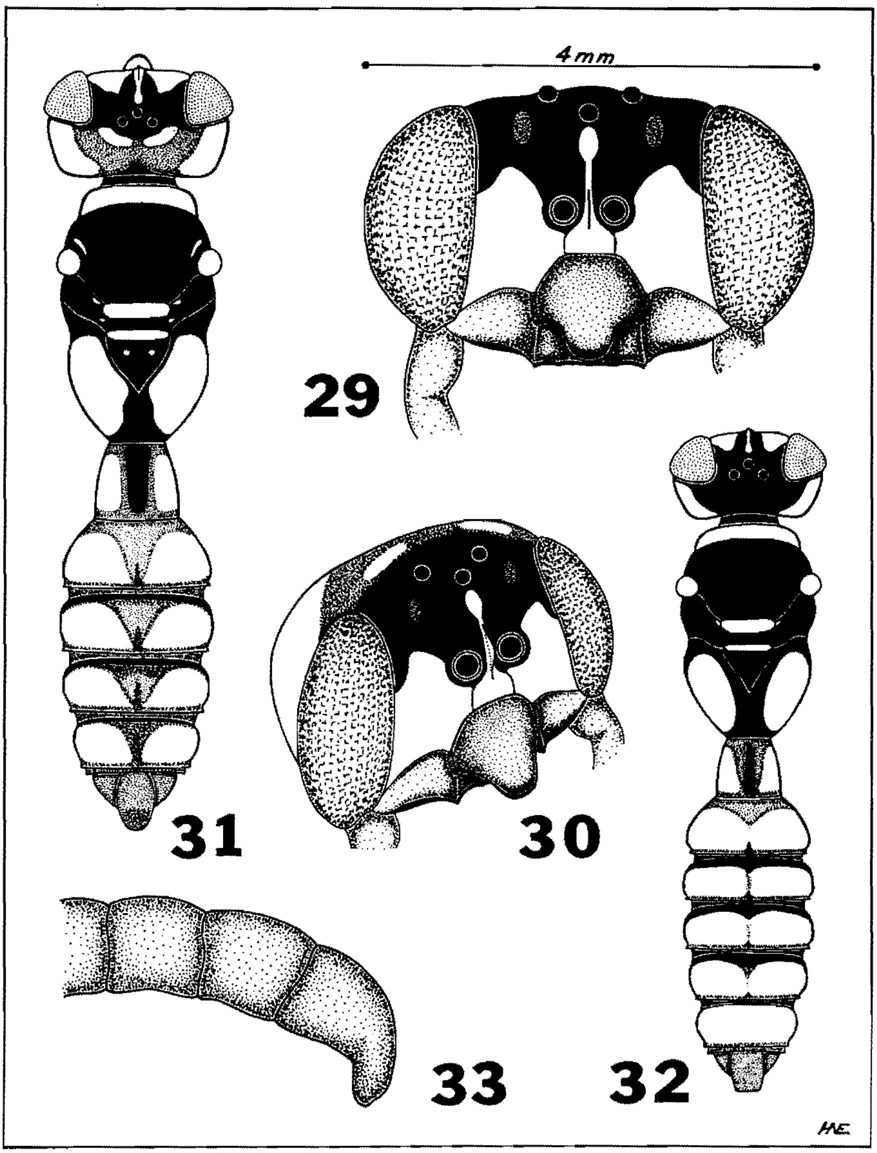
MATERIAL EXAMINED. SOUTH AFRICA, Transvaal: ♂-metallotype, No. 44/1, Ellisras (Hope), 12.xi.1967 (H. N. Empey); 2 ♂-metaparatypes, Nos. 44/2 and 44/3, Retief's Kloof (Rustenburg District), 30.iii.1960 (H. N. Empey); 1 ♂-metaparatype, No. 44/5, Pretoria, 3.iii.1966 (H. N. Empey); 1 ♂-metaparatype, No. 44/7, Mamagalieskraal (Pretoria District), 17.ii.1926 (W. Lingnau); 1 ♂-metaparatype, No. 44/8, Rustenburg, 26.xi.1947 (A. L. Capener); 1 ♂-metaparatype, No. 44/9, Schoemanville, 16.xi.1969 (H. N. Empey); 6♀, Ellisras (Hope), Schoemansville, Retief's Kloof (Rustenburg District)), Nov.–Dec. (H. N. Empey). RHODESIA: 1 ♂-metaparatype, No. 44/6, Turk Mine, 16.xii.1957 (Nat.Mus.S.Rhod.); 1 ♂-metaparatype, No. 44/10, Bulawayo, 6.ii.1927 (R. H. R. Stevenson); 2 ♀, Penkridge, Bala-Bala, Nov.–Feb. (Nat.Mus.S.Rhod.).

♂-metallotype, ♂-metaparatypes are deposited in my collection; ♂-metaparatypes in Rhodesia Museum, Albany Museum and the Deutsches Entomologisches Institut, E. Germany.

Cerceris kalaharica ovambo subspec. nov., figs 29–33, 46

FEMALE. 16 mm long. Coloured very much the same as nominal subspecific females, except that the ferruginous colour on the tergites is somewhat reduced, with only traces of black, or no black markings at all, thus making the yellow on the tergital bands much bolder. Entire occiput ferruginous, with two bold and obliquely angled yellow lines, one a side, frontally divergent in the interocular space; there are also ferruginous streaks in the posterior areas of the genae, adjoining the yellow markings on the side of the head; or the entire occiput, upper and lower genae are ferruginous (as is the case with one of the paratypes), with only faint traces of yellow maculae immediately behind the posterior ocelli. There are also two small and transversely adjacent yellowish spots in the middle of the saeptum (absent on nominal subspecific females); the pygidial surface is entirely ferruginous, whereas in nominal subspecific females there is some distal infuscation. The yellow on hypo-epimeral and metapleural areas is much bolder than that on the nominal subspecies, specimens of which showing considerable variation of colour on these parts, for some nominal specimen females have these areas completely devoid of yellow, and others have these parts ferruginous, as is the case with one female paratype of this new subspecies. Sternites usually yellow, sometimes with medial blending of ferruginous on second and third sternites. Pilosity and wing coloration as nominal subspecies.

Structurally there is a difference in the pygidial and clypeal nasiform shapes. In this subspecies, the nasiform protuberance of the clypeal process does not protrude as porrectly as that of nominal subspecific females, resulting in the position of the clypeal process free apex, when viewed perpendicularly to the longitudinal clypeal axis, being much lower down on the medioclypeal anterior area, and quite one-fourth of the medioclypeal length from its apex (in nominal specimens this is half-way); the nasiform apex is narrow and somewhat rounded in this subspecies, whereas in nominal subspecific females, this apical margin is wider, subtruncate, with corners rounded. In nominal *kalaharica kalaharica* the pygidium is broadly linguiform, somewhat suboblong, two-thirds longer again than wide, sides weakly convex, apically subtruncate, corners rounded; but females of *ovambo* have the pygidium broadly ovate, three-fourths longer again than wide, sides moderately convex, and the apex, which is distinctly narrower than the base, somewhat rounded. Posterior tibiae with seven spiniferous serrations along each outer edge. Second sternite without mediobasal platform. The interocular



Figs. 29–33. *Cerceris kalaharica ovambo* subspec. nov. 29, 30 — ♀ head; 31 — ♀ body; 32 — ♂ body; 33 — ♂ apex to flagellum.

distance on the vertex, the shape of the flagellar segments and the proportions thereof, as well as the sternital apical concavity and excisions, including the medio-apical impression and shape of the petiole, are as females of the nominal subspecies.

The puncturation hardly differs between the two subspecies, but there is a difference in the surface sculpture of the pygidium: in females of *C. k. kalaharica* this surface is coarsely rugose basally and coriaceous distally, whereas in *C. k. ovambo* this surface is moderately rugose all over, except for some coriaceousness near the apex. Otherwise as nominal subspecific females in sculpture.

MALE. 13–14 mm long. Coloration similar to female, except that there is no ferruginous colour on the head; the tergites also have hardly any ferruginous coloration. The hypo-epimeral, mesopleural and ventrothoracic areas are boldly yellowish, whereas in nominal subspecific males these parts are only slightly yellowish in parts. The yellow on the tergites is much bolder than males of *k. kalaharica,* which have moderately large black triangular mediobasal markings, whereas in *k. ovambo* males these black markings are reduced to very thin mediolongitudinal lines, which stretch from base to apex.

Puncturation similar to female, hardly differing from that of nominal subspecific males. Structurally there is hardly any difference between males of the two subspecies—this is usually the case when subspecific males of this genus are separated; however, there is a noticeable difference in the surface shapes of the medioclypeus and that of the ultimate flagellar segment (fig. 33). In *k. kalaharica* males, the medioclypeus is flatly convex, flatly shallowly and mediolongitudinally concave anteriorly—in *k. ovambo* males, the surface is moderately convex throughout; the shape of the ultimate flagellar segment differs from that of nominal males by being thicker and the curved portion shorter, a characteristic which, together with the full convexity of the medioclypeal surface, may help in the separation of the males of this subspecies. The proportions of length to width of the medioclypeus, the shapes of the petiole, pygidium and the proportions thereof, are as nominal subspecific males; this also applies to the presence of the medio-apical petiole impression, the tergital and sternital conditions and other structural details.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. SOUTH WEST AFRICA: ♀-holotype, No. 83/1, Kamanjab, March 1925 (S.A.Mus.Exped.); ♂-allotype, No. 83/2, Kamanjab, January 1925 (S.A.Mus.Exped.); 2 ♀-paratypes, Nos. 83/3–4, Namuntoni, 10.i.1960 (H. N. Empey); 1 ♂-paratype, No. 83/5, Namuntoni, 10.i.1960 (H. N. Empey); 1 ♂-paratype, No. 83/6, Ondgandjara, March 1913 (Dr. Brauns). Holotype and allotype deposited in the South African Museum; paratypes in Transvaal Museum and my collection.

Cerceris katangae Brauns, 1914, figs 34–39, 46

Cereceris katangae Brauns, 1914: 237 (♀); 1926: 288 (♀); Empey, 1969: 312 (♀).

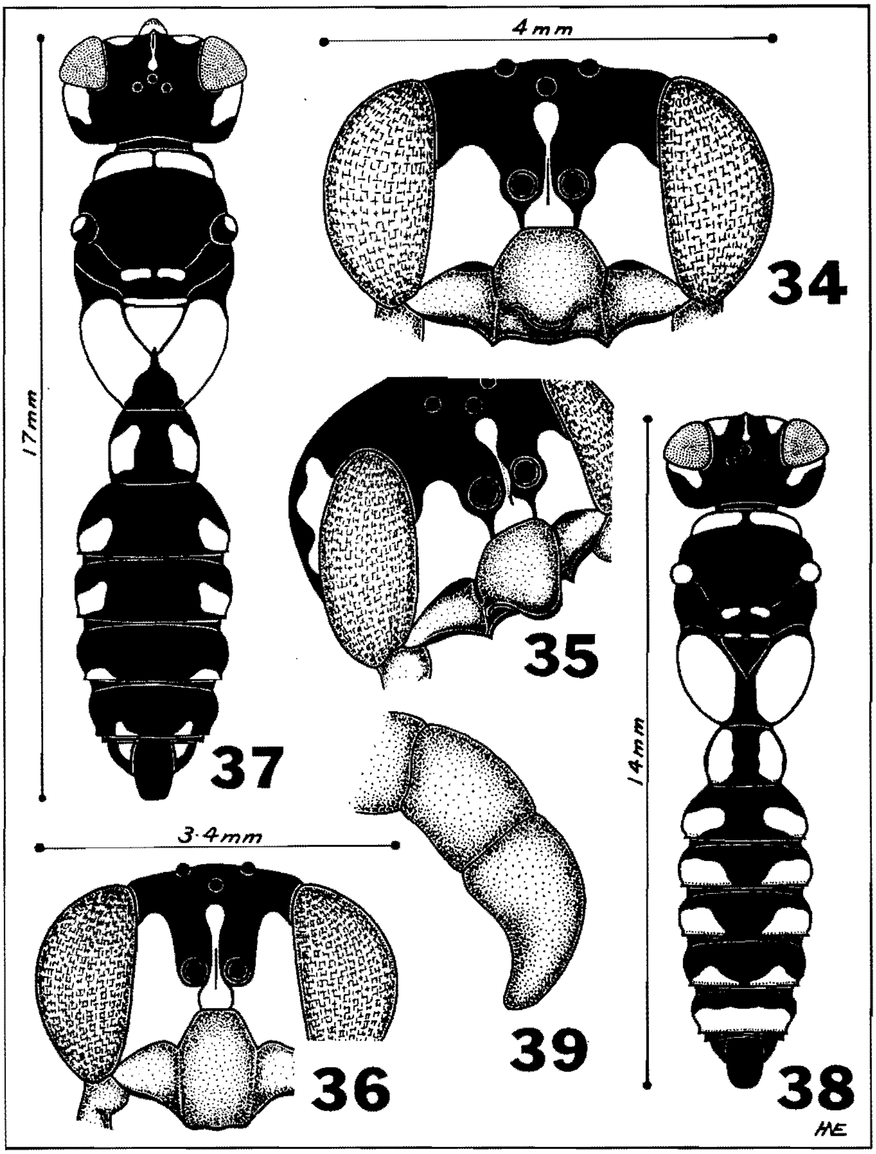
Brauns' paper "*Die Aethiopischen Cerceris-Arten*" did not appear, I have learned, until 1914, as indicated above. The date of *C. katangae*, as well as that of several other species described in that paper is 1914, not 1913 as listed in Empey (1969).

FEMALE. 17 mm long. Black, the following parts yellow: Clypeus; frons, to a little beyond antennal insertion level; frontal disc; interantennal carina, extending as a macula to just below anterior ocellus; genae, entirely; pronotal dorsum; tegulae; two large transversely placed maculae, one on each side of anteroscutellum; metanotum; saeptum, except black apex; large maculae, extending from saeptal sutures laterally, on propodeum; wing bases; hypo-epimeral areas, in greater part; large lateral maculae, one a side, on petiole; bold laterodistal maculae, one a side, on all tergites, maculae progressively smaller caudad; scapes, anteriorly; undersides of fore and middle femora, and spots on anterior coxae in front. Sternites black. Pygidium dark brownish-ferruginous; adjacent faces of hypopygium yellow. Mandibles dark ferruginous, basally tinged with yellow, distally blackish. Antennae dark ferruginous, upper surfaces blackish, except apices. Upper surfaces of femora blackish, tinged with ferruginous, the posterior ones ferruginous beneath. Tibiae and tarsi ferruginous, somewhat brownish in parts, especially the latter. Wings subhyaline, tinged with pale brown, fore wings darkening distally; pterostigmae and costae ferruginous, veins brown. Pilosity sericeous, golden on fimbriated apical margin of fifth tergite, short and sparse dorsally. The free apex of clypeal process and medioclypeal apex ferruginous.

Puncturation of frons and clypeus fine, interspersed, very shallow and superimposed on fundamental fine coriaceousness; rest of head reticulate-punctate. Dorsal surface near free edge of nasiform clypeal process longitudinally rugoso-striate. Pronotal dorsum very shallowly, sparsely and moderately punctured. Scutum, mesopleuron, hypo-epimeral areas and propodeal dorsal areas next to lateral saeptal sutures, reticulate-punctate as occiput. Lateropropodeal areas somewhat moderately rugoso-punctate. Saeptum without median groove; saeptal surface evenly reticulate-punctate, punctures contiguous and slightly finer than those on occiput. Scutellum punctured as scutum, but puncturation not close, interstices at times greater than the diameters of punctures. Metanotum practically impunctate. Petiole punctured as saeptum; in contrast, balance of abdominal dorsal complex very finely and very shallowly reticulate-punctulate, the punctulation somewhat coriaceous. Pygidium finely rugose. Sternites with moderate lateral puncturation, punctures shallow and widely placed.

Mandibles subfalcate, somewhat subunidentate mediobasally on their inner margins. Medioclypeus convex, a little longer than wide, apical margin moderately convex, ending laterally in subdenticular corners which protrude slightly beyond the lateroclypeal apices. The convexity of the medioclypeus extends anteriorly into a nasiform clypeal process, this subsemi-conical subporrect projection tapering sharply to a small and somewhat obtusely rounded free apex, the projection length being about one-half of the medioclypeal width. Beneath the projecting clypeal process the surface is deeply concave, this concavity blending into the convexity of the distal surface of the medioclypeus. Petiole a little wider than long, sides moderately convex, narrower basally than apically. Second tergite as long as, and two-thirds wider again than petiole. Pygidium barrel-shaped, two-thirds longer again than wide, sides uniformly convex, apex subtruncate, corners rounded. Posterior tibiae with six coarse spiniferous serrations along each outer edge. Second sternite without mediobasal platform. Hypopygium apex deeply emarginate. Apices of sternites shallowly concave, acutely excised medio-apically. Petiole medio-apically subfoveate. Distal one-half of pygidium longitudinally concave, somewhat turned-up. Interocular distance on vertex equal to combined length of first seven segments of flagellum. Second flagellar segment about one-fourth longer again than third segment; ultimate segment is about as long as second segment, is slightly curved and apically rounded. Inner orbits moderately divergent towards mandibular base. Free apex of nasiform clypeal process, when viewed perpendicularly to clypeal longitudinal axis, about one-fourth of medioclypeal length from apex of medioclypeus. Propodeum, when viewed dorsally, appears abnormally swollen in its lateral cordiform shape. Insect generally robust in appearance.

MALE (hitherto undescribed). 13–14 mm long. Coloured very much the same as female, except that the saeptum is black, and the yellow maculae on the sides of the



Figs. 34–39. *Cerceris katangae* Brauns. 34, 35 — ♀ head; 36 — ♂ head; 37 — ♀ body; 38 — ♂ body; 39 — ♂ apex to flagellum.

head are smaller, restricted to the upper genae and slightly below these parts. The yellow colour on the pronotal dorsum is broken medially. Tergites and sternites black as female, yellow lateral maculae on former bolder than that of female, and that on fifth tergite covering the entire apical half of this sclerite. Pilosity similar in colour to female, but exceedingly long and somewhat shaggy on the last four ventral segments of the abdominal complex.

The puncturation hardly differs from that of the female, but the puncturation on the scutum is much finer than that of the occiput, saeptum, scutellum and petiole, these latter parts having fine reticulate puncturation, except scutellum which has interspersed puncturation; in fact, the fine reticulate puncturation of the scutum is similar to that on the tergites. Saeptal surface condition similar to that of female. Pygidial surface very finely fundamentally coriaceous, on which is superimposed small, deep and widely interspersed punctures spread evenly over entire surface.

Medioclypeus elongate convex, about one-half longer again than wide, apex feebly sinuate and medio-apically broadly subunidentate, apical margin protruding slightly beyond and obtusely angular from lateroclypeal apices. Inner orbits moderately divergent towards mandibular base. Mandibles subfalcate, edentate. Petiole similar to female, but slightly shorter than wide, sides strongly convex, bell-shaped. Second tergite as long as, and about one-half wider again than petiole. Pygidium three-fourths longer again than wide, sides slightly convex and broadly rounded apically, an unusual apex for males of this genus. Second sternite without mediobasal platform. Posterior tibiae with six very feeble serrations along each outer edge. The medio-apical fovea of petiole, the concavity and excisions of sternital apices similar to female. Interocular distance on vertex equal to combined length of first five segments of flagellum. Propodeal cordiform shape robust, similar to female. Ultimate segment of flagellum (fig. 39) strongly curved, tapering acutely to a rounded and much smaller apex. Posterior basitarsi thin, sinuate.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. CONGO, Katanga Province: ♀-holotype, No. 33/1, Kibimbi, 4.ii.1911 (Dr. Bequaert) (Musée R. de l'Afrique Centrale). CONGO, Lomami Province: 1 ♂-metaparatype, No. 33/3, Lulomba, July 1930 (P. Quarré). ZAMBIA: ♂-metallotype, No. 33/2, Ndola (Kitwe), 7.ii.1961 (H. N. Empey). TANZANIA, Moero: 1 ♂-metaparatype, No. 33/4, Nyunzu, 1.i.1934 (H. De Saeger). Metallotype deposited in my collection; metaparatypes in Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren, Belgium.

NOTES. This species is closely related to *C. kalaharica* Bischoff, 1913 and distantly related to *C. nasidens* Schletterer, 1887; it could quite easily be confused with the former species, for both are similar in colour—even the male genitalia are similar—but the dorsal shape of the propodeum and petiole (both sexes) and the shape of the ultimate segment of the flagellum (males), show they are distinct species. In fact, the South West African subspecies of *Cerceris kalaharica*, namely *ovambo* is the closest in its relationship to *Cerceris katangae* Brauns.

Cerceris albigena Cameron, 1905, figs 40–45, 46

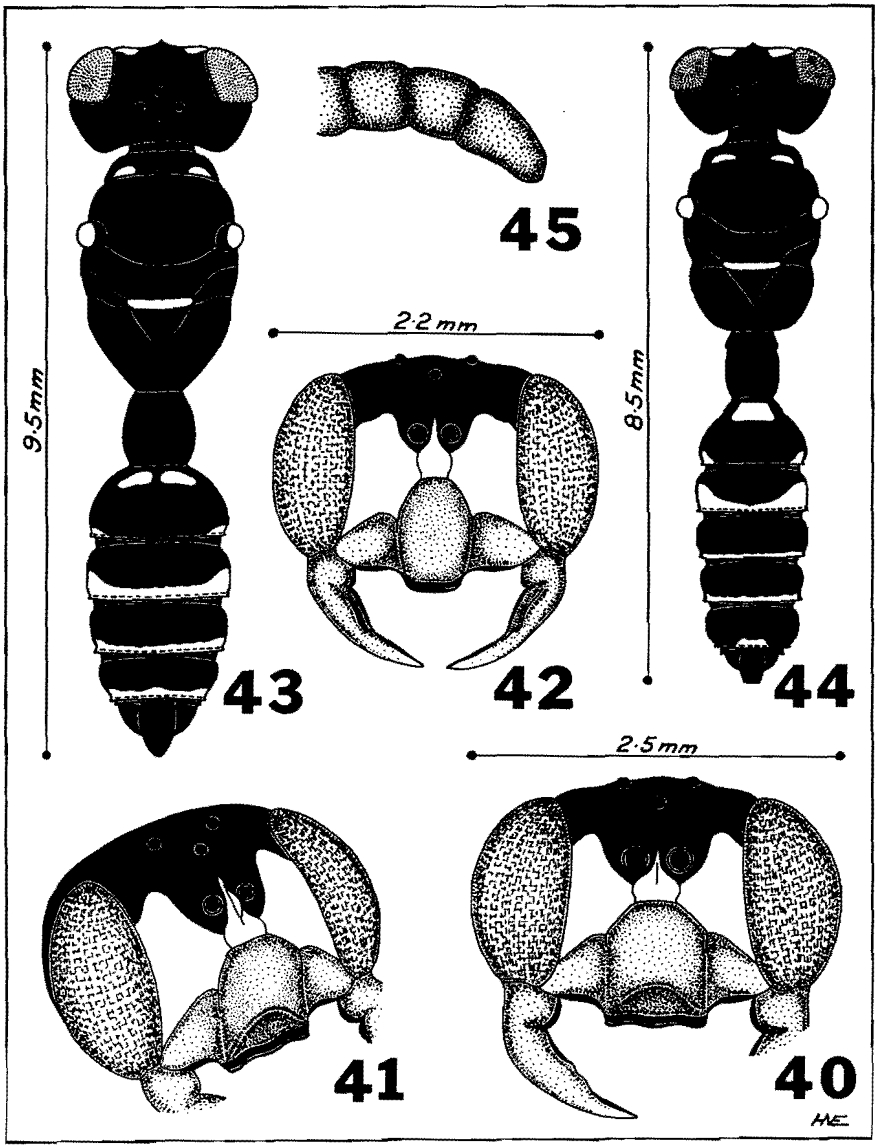
Cerceris albigena Cameron, 1905: 217 (♀); Arnold, 1931: 191 (♀); Empey, 1969: 300 (♀).

FEMALE. 9–10 mm long (holotype 9 mm). Black, the following parts creamy-white: clypeus, except extreme apical margin of medioclypeus, which is black; frons, to a little beyond antennal insertion level; scapulae of pronotal dorsum; tegulae, in greater part; metanotum; two large transversely adjacent mediobasal maculae, sometimes joined, on second tergite; thin latero-apical maculae on second tergite; an apical band, moderately dilated laterally, on third tergite; very thin apical bands, or traces of such bands, on fourth and fifth tergites, fifth band usually bolder medially; anterior and middle tibiae and tarsi; exterior surfaces of anterior femora and extreme distal areas of middle femora; outer edges of posterior tibiae; small lateral maculae, one a side, on second sternite; an apical band, moderately dilated laterally, on third sternite; traces on lateral areas of fourth and fifth sternites. Mandibles yellow, except distal one-fourth, which is blackish, and extreme base, which is ferruginous. Posterior tibiae and tarsi dark ferruginous to black on inner sides; femora, in greater portion, blackish. Wings subhyaline, tinged with pale brown, fore wings darkening distally; veins and pterostigmae brown. Pilosity silvery, short and sparse, slightly longer ventrally.

Medioclypeus simple, moderately convex, one-fourth longer again than wide, flattening out near apex, the margin of which being very feebly sinuate, subtransverse and somewhat protruding with lateral corners subrectangular. Mandibles robust, edentate. Inner orbits moderately divergent towards mandibular base. Scapulae moderately swollen; pronotal collar with transversely elongate subtriangular postero-medial fovea. Saeptum large, slightly convex, nitidulous and faintly mediolongitudinally grooved. Mesopleuron unarmed. Petiole as long as wide, sides moderately convex and narrowing basad, widest at distal one-third. Second tergite as long, and nearly twice as wide as petiole. Pygidium ovate, two-thirds longer again than wide, sides convex and narrowing to a rounded apex. Second sternite with mediobasal platform. Posterior tibiae with six moderate spiniferous serrations along each outer edge. Antero-scutum slightly mediolongitudinally depressed. Interocular distance on vertex equal to combined length of first seven segments of flagellum.

Clypeus and frons finely, shallowly and sparsely punctured; rest of head reticulate-punctate, punctures slightly larger, much deeper than those on frons. Scapulae punctured as frons, balance of pronotal dorsum punctured as occiput, but punctures wider apart. Scutum with puncturation similar to that of occiput, but punctures shallower and sparsely interspersed, interstices at times three to four times the diameters of the punctures, especially mediodorsally; puncturation of scutellum similar, but punctures very widely interspersed. Metanotum impunctate. Propodeal areas adjacent lateral saeptal sutures punctured as mediodorsal scutum, elsewhere puncturation much closer. Hypo-epimeral and mesopleural areas reticulate-punctate as occiput. Superior metapleural areas coarsely striate. Petiole, second and third tergites coarsely punctured, punctures spread out, interstices at times equalling the puncture diameters; fourth and fifth tergites with similar puncturation, punctures progressively smaller and shallower caudad. Pygidium finely rugose. Sternites sparsely punctured laterally. Insect moderately shining all over.

MALE (hitherto undescribed). 8,5–9 mm long. Coloration as female; puncturation similar, but slightly coarser. Medioclypeus convex, suboval, about one-half longer again than wide; apex feebly convex, edentate, margin black (as female) and produced slightly beyond lateroclypeal apices. Mandibles edentate, subfalcate. Inner orbits slightly divergent towards mandibular base. Petiole suboblong, one-fourth longer again than wide, sides weakly convex. Second tergite twice as wide, and as long as petiole. Pygidium suboblong, two-thirds longer again than wide, sides subparallel, apex truncate; surface finely deeply reticulate-punctate. Second sternite with distinct mediobasal platform. Posterior tibiae with six very feeble serrations along each outer edge. Saeptum nitidulous, finely crenulate in lateral sutures and mediolongitudinally grooved.



Figs. 40–45. *Cerceris albigena* Cameron. 40, 41 — ♀ head; 42 — ♂ head; 43 — ♀ body; 44 — ♂ body; 45 — ♂ apex to flagellum.

Interocular distance on vertex about equal to combined length of first five, plus one-half of sixth segments of flagellum. Second flagellar segment one-fourth longer again than third segment; ultimate segment (fig. 45) is as long as third segment, is slightly curved, slightly tapered and apically pointed. Pilosity as female.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. SOUTH AFRICA, Cape Province: ♀-holotype, Pearston (Broome) (British Museum); ♂-metallotype, No. 100/1, Steytlerville, 13.i.1965 (H. N. Empey); 3 ♂-metaparatypes, Nos. 100/2–4, Steytlerville, 13.i.1965 (H. N. Empey); 3 ♂-metaparatypes, Nos. 100/5–7, Swellendam, 15.xi.1963 (H. N. Empey); 1 ♀, Swellendam, 15.xi.1963 (Empey Collection); 2 ♀, Steytlerville, 13.i.1965 (Empey Collection); 2 ♂, Mossel Bay, December 1934 (R. E. Turner) (British Museum); 1 ♂, Mossel Bay (Rhodesia Museum). Metallotype and metaparatypes are deposited in my collection.

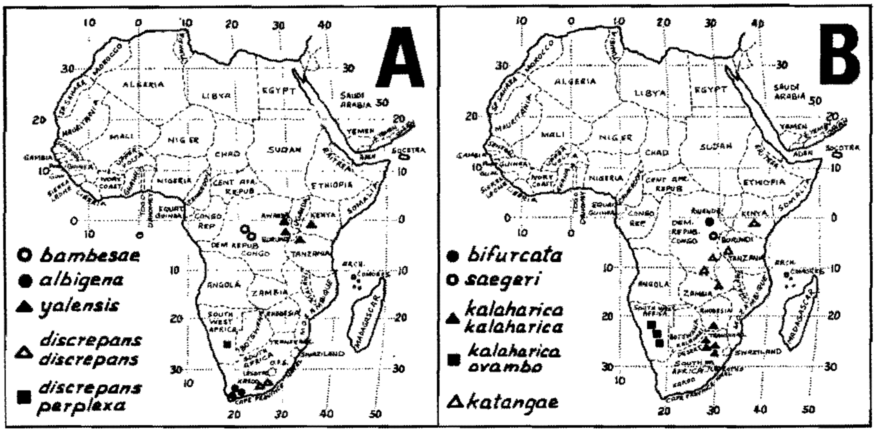


Fig. 46. Distribution. Map A.—*Cerceris bambesae* spec. nov.; *Cerceris albigena* Cameron; *Cerceris yalensis* Turner; *Cerceris discrepans discrepans* Brauns; *Cerceris discrepans perplexa* Arnold. Map. B.—*Cerceris bifurcata* Empey; *Cerceris saegeri* Empey; *Cerceris kalaharica kalaharica* Boschoff; *Cerceris kalaharica ovambo* subspec. nov.; *Cerceris katangae* Brauns.

HOMONYMY

In the course of studies on the Ethiopian species of *Cerceris* Latreille, 1802 two cases of undetected homonymy were encountered.

Cerceris ventripilosa nom. nov.

Cerceris turneri Arnold, 1931: 142, 144, 168 (♀, ♂); Empey, 1969: 324 (♀, ♂). Junior homonym of *C. turneri* Shestakov, 1918.

Cerceris flavofemorata Arnold, 1942

Cerceris flavofemorata Arnold, 1942: 22 (♂); Empey, 1969: 307 (♂).
Cerceris ponderosa Arnold, 1931: 142, 174 (♀); Empey, 1969: 319 (♀), **syn. nov.** Junior homonym of *C. ponderosa* Brèthes, 1920.
Cerceris maia Arnold, 1951: 114 (♂); Empey, 1969: 307.

NOTES. Females of *C. flavofemorata* Arnold, taken together with males of this species (female hitherto unknown) were found to be identical with the female holotype of *C. ponderosa* Arnold, thus leading to the synonymy of the latter.

EXTRALIMITAL TYPES AND SYNONYMY

Whilst studying the types of the Ethiopian species of *Cerceris* Latreille in the Vienna Museum, I took the opportunity of examining some of Schletterer's and Kohl's Palaearctic *Cerceris* types from north Africa, as listed below. Appropriate red type labels have been added to the types.

1. Holotype ♂ *Cerceris nilotica* Schletterer, 1887
Type locality: EGYPT: Thèbes. Type decapitated, otherwise in good condition, labelled '*nilotica Type*' in Schletterer's red-inked handwriting.

2. Cotypes (1 ♀, 1 ♂) *Cerceris sareptana* Schletterer, 1887
Type locality: SAREPTA. These specimens each carry two labels: 'Bekker 1871 Sarepta' and 'sarepta Type', the latter in Schletterer's hand. I have selected the female as lectotype, the male as lectoparatype. The types are in good condition.

3. Holotype ♂ *Cerceris chromatica* Schletterer, 1887
Type locality: EGYPT: El Alag. Type in excellent condition carrying two labels: '*Natt 1858 Egypt*' and '*chromatica Typ.*', the latter in Schletterer's usual red-inked handwriting.

4. Holotype ♀ *Cerceris pharaonum* Kohl, 1898
Type locality: EGYPT: Tourah. Type intact and in good condition, carrying two labels: '*Egypt Tourrah*' and '*pharaonum K. Type*', the latter in Kohl's hand.

5. Lectotype ♀ *Cerceris schmiedeknechti* Kohl, 1898
Type locality: ORAN. Type in good condition and labelled lectotype ♀ by De Beaumont.

De Beaumont (1951: 367) listed *C. schmiedeknechti* Kohl as a valid species, and remarked on the affinity of this species and *Cerceris specularis* Costa, 1869. I have made comparisons between female specimens of *schmiedeknechti* and *specularis,* the former north African, the latter European, finding hardly any difference, except that specimens from Morocco and Oran (*schmiedeknechti*) differ slightly in the puncturation of the fourth and fifth tergites; males of *schmiedeknechti* and *specularis* are almost identical, the tergital puncturation differing very slightly. I therefore conclude that *schmiedeknechti* be considered an infrasubspecific form of *Cerceris specularis* Costa and placed in synonymy; furthermore, *Cerceris specularis* var. *punctuosa* Schletterer, 1887 should likewise be relegated. The taxonomic position of *specularis* will be as follows.

Cerceris specularis Costa, 1869

Cerceris specularis Costa, 1869: 101 (♀, ♂); Schletterer, 1887: 431 (♀, ♂); André, 1889: 297 (♀, ♂); De Beaumont, 1958: 273 (♀, ♂).
Cerceris specularis var. **punctuosa** Schletterer, 1887: 432 (♀, ♂), **syn. nov.**
Cerceris schmiedeknechti Kohl, 1898: 94 (♂, ♀); Morice, 1911: 92 (♂, ♀); Giner Mari, 1941: 209 (♂, ♀); De Beaumont, 1951: 367; **syn. nov.**

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